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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 241

2 APRIL 1957

1. The following were present:

Mr. D. J. Clinton	State
Mr. R. S. Kain	State
Lt. Col. D. H. Smith	Army
Maj. J. W. Jacobson	Army
*Mr. Andre E. Gerard	Army
LCdr. H. W. Holschub	Navy
Col. Sam A. Carnes	Air Force
Lt. Col. H. K. Avery	Air Force
*Mr. R. H. Strickland	Air Force
*Mr. John B. Burkel	Air Force
	CIA
	CIA
	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA (Vice Chairman)
	CIA (Secretary)

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* In attendance for review of Chapter I.

2. Review of Chapter I on Hungary

The Committee reviewed the Chapter I on NIS 19 (Hungary) and approved the draft with certain changes. The Chapter I Task Group was requested to review the detailed comments submitted by the member agencies. The Committee directed that this Chapter I be controlled in its entirety since several sections had been controlled by the contributing agencies.

The chairman expressed his appreciation to the members and supporting staffs for the thoroughness of their reviews of this Chapter and the excellence of their comments. He observed that this had been a difficult chapter to prepare in view of the recency of the Hungarian revolt and, in consequence, may require earlier revision than normal as the new situation in Hungary develops.

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3. New Supplement II Designation

The Committee tentatively approved the change of designation of Supplement II from "Air Facilities" to "Coasts and Landing Beaches," pending the final approval of the revised outline guides for "Coasts and Landing Beaches" (refer to Item 3 NCM 240). The Committee directed that existing Supplements II on United Kingdom, Norway, Italy, USSR, and Egypt be destroyed, since they are superseded by other NIS elements and Air Force current reports, and that existing Supplements II on Alaska, Iceland, and Greenland be redesignated as interim Annexes to the respective Sections 37 (Civil Air) on those areas until such time as the relevant intelligence can be incorporated into revised Sections 37 under the NIS maintenance program.

4. Requirements for NIS on the Middle East

It was the consensus of the members that their agencies did not have capabilities beyond scheduled commitments to fill by NIS production the existing gaps in basic intelligence on the Middle East by next year as requested by ONI (refer to Item 5 NCM 240). The Committee considers it imperative to sustain the present capabilities devoted to maintenance in order to keep the published NIS on the Middle East reasonably up to date. A full discussion of this matter indicated that most of these gaps will be filled and Chapters I on most areas of the Middle East will be produced within the next two years under the forecast schedule. In view of these considerations and the fact that the majority of unpublished NIS on the Middle East are concerned with Sociological, Political, and Economic Intelligence, the chairman requested the State member to determine what current reports could be used as an interim measure to satisfy this requirement until the necessary NIS are produced. The State member said he would investigate this matter and report on those studies which could support ONI's requirement. In this respect, he observed that there were a number of intelligence projects recently undertaken on the Middle East which are listed in the latest issue of "Foreign Area and Psychological Warfare Research" prepared by the External Research Staff of State.

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5. Request for NIS from Department of Commerce

The members were handed copies of a letter dated 14 March 1957 from the U. S. Department of Commerce, Maritime Administration, requesting copies of Section 35 and Supplement I (Ports and Naval Facilities) on all NIS areas published during 1955 and subsequent years, and further requesting that the Maritime Administration be placed on the distribution list for future releases. The vice chairman asked the members to report the views of their agencies on the release of these NIS elements.

6. Intelligence Products Exhibit Dates

The vice chairman informed the members by memorandum dated 2 April 1957 that the dates of the next CIA Intelligence Products Exhibits open to NIS personnel are 9 May and 6 June 1957, and requested that the names of those who will attend these Exhibits be submitted to OBI two weeks in advance of the scheduled dates.

7. Proposed NIS Reference Guide

The Committee discussed the security aspects of an unclassified NIS reference guide proposed by the State member (refer to Item 6c. NCM 240). The vice chairman reported that he had reviewed the proposal from a security viewpoint and had concluded that in order to serve a useful purpose such a reference guide would have to include classified details of the NIS Program. Further, he saw no reason for declassifying such information since potential users would require security clearance to obtain copies of the published NIS.

The chairman suggested that relevant portions of the NIS Standard Instructions, suitably classified, could be separately bound for wider distribution throughout the government as a means of informing potential users about the NIS Program. The members agreed there was a need for such a document and that its wider circulation could extend the usefulness of the NIS. The chairman said he would have a sample copy prepared for examination by the Committee.

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8. Other Matters

a. The Air Force member proposed by memorandum of 1 April 1957 a standardized procedure for adding important post cut-off date intelligence to Chapters I, III, and VIII. The Committee deferred discussion until the proposal could be studied.

b. The Committee tentatively approved an Army proposal contained in memorandum of 25 March 1957 for numerous changes in Army's commitments affecting the NIS Production Forecast for FYs 1958-59-60. These changes will appear in the new NIS Production Schedule and Forecast to be developed at the end of the current fiscal year.

9. The next meeting of the NIS Committee will be held at 1000 hours on Tuesday, 16 April 1957.



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